Student Impact on Move-in Week the Greater Boston Area

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***Abstract*—Move in week is universally chaotic and a generally unpleasant experience for both, college students and local residents [?]. Despite universities' meticulous attempts to mitigate trouble, the logistical concerns presented by the sudden influx of over 30,000 students are intractable. In this project, we attempt to identify specific factors affecting residents' quality of life (as a result of move-in week) and study ways to improve it.**

I. Introduction

Over 50,000 new and returning students move in to dormitories and apartments in the city of Boston each year [**?**]. Known colloquially as "move-in week", this 7-day period between late August and early September wreaks considerable havoc over residents' lives. Traffic delays, overcrowded public transport, inadequate parking spaces, and the infamous *"Storrowed"* trucks [**?**] are among some of the difficulties that irk both, students and locals.

Due to the nature of an academic calendar for most universities, the lease cycle tends to be September 1st. This rapid movement in a dense area affects the overall quality of life in the city, often for the worse. [TODO: explain why we care(answering 2 questions...)].

Mensurability notwithstanding, conventional proxies[1] for quality of life disregard (among other things) societal happiness: a critical adjunct to traditional economic metrics [**?**]. To remedy this, we propose an approach that utilizes open data sourced from Boston City's *Analyze Boston* data portal [**?**] and posts made on the microblogging platform, Twitter [**?**]. In particular, we use the *CityScore*, *311 Service Requests*, and *Boston Fire Incident Reporting* datasets to identify the demand for specific city resources across multiple time periods as a function of user satisfaction.

The rest of this paper is organized as follows: in section II, we document related research that inspired this project. In section III, we describe each of the 4 chosen datasets in greater detail to focus on their merits, potential limitations, and the methods we used to discern their relative importance in estimating the city's quality of life. Section IV charts our results and outlines their implications. Section V concludes the report with an outlook on future research.

II. Related Work

Jim Haddadin explored the relationship between move-in week and garbage disposal concerns in [**?**]. Noting a sharp rise in the number of code violations around university residences during move-in week, Haddadin highlights the consequences (and inevitability) of improper trash disposal [TODO: describe more]. In [**?**], Dodds et al address the subjectivity and vagueness inherent to estimating happiness among people by mining 46 billion tweets to uncover temporal variations in happiness and information levels over timescales ranging from hours to years.Their remote-sensing 'hedonometer' algorithm generated a rich source of information about short-term, experential happiness in a population and its causes. We use a similar, albeit slightly modified approach to understand residents' moods during move-in week.

[1]The GDP (Gross Domestic Product) is often used as an approximate measure of quality of life, in conjunction with other metrics such as the HDI (Human Development Index) and Gini Coefficient.

III. Approach

Subsections of how each of us individually contributed to each part of the project

A. Vincent

B. Claire

C. Library Attendance Analysis

The goal of analyzing library visits to city score started out with questioning whether the number of visits actually went up during university session. The two datasets, were filtered based on the "ETL_LOAD_DATE" feature from the City Score data set:

Students In Session

- September
- October
- November
- December 1st-15th
- January 16th-31st
- February
- March
- April
- May

Students Not In Session:

- January 1st-15th
- July
- June
- August
- December 16th-31st

D. Dharmesh

IV. Results

Results go here.

V. Conclusion

Conclusion goes here.

VI. Outlook

References

[1] Landry, Lauren. "Boston, You've Been Warned: The College Students Are Here.? Americaninno.com, 25 Aug. 2014, www.americaninno.com/boston/move-in-dates-for-boston-college-students-back-to-school-in-boston/.

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[3] Slane, Kevin. "Trillium Has a New Beer Named for Trucks That Get 'Storrowed'." Boston.com, The Boston Globe, 2 Feb. 2018, https://www.boston.com/culture/lifestyle/2018/02/02/trillium-has-a-new-beer-named-for-trucks-that-get-storrowed.

[4] Dodds, Peter Sheridan, et al. "Temporal patterns of happiness and information in a global social network: Hedonometrics and Twitter." PloS one 6.12 (2011): e26752.

[5] Analyze Boston, https://data.boston.gov/.

[6] Twitter, https://twitter.com.

[7] J. Haddidin, *Trash City: How Does Moving Week Impact the Quality of Life in Boston?*,Analyze Boston, *https://data.boston.gov/showcase/trash-city*